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Catfish

Agricultural Statistics Board

National Agricultural Statistics Service

United States Department of Agriculture

Washington, D.C. 20250

COMPLETED

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ORIGINAL

CATFISH PROCESSING UP 11 PERCENT

Farm-raised catfish processed during December totaled 14.8 million pounds (6740 metric tons) round weight, according to the Agricultural Statistics Board, up 11 percent from December 1985.

The December average price paid to growers was 61 cents per pound, 9 cents below the same month last year.

Net pounds of processed fish sold during December totaled 7.74 million pounds (3510 metric tons), up 21 percent from the comparable month in 1985. Sales of whole fish represented 47 percent of the total and fillets accounted for 36 percent. The remaining 17 percent were mostly steaks and nuggets. Ice pack sales were 51 percent of the total amount sold.

The December average prices received by processors for whole fish were $1.41 per pound for ice pack and $1.51 for frozen fish.

Freshwater catfish imports during November totaled 1.14 million pounds (518 metric tons), virtually all of which were from Brazil. Imports were significantly above the amount imported a year earlier. Import data were compiled by the U.S. Bureau of the Census.

Processing data were compiled in cooperation with the following processors:

Amite River Industries
Corbin Fish Farm
Country Skillet (Con Agra)
Crawford Catfish Acres
Delta Catfish Processors
Farm Fresh Catfish Co.
Fish Breeders of Idaho
Georgia's King Catfish
Grain Fed Fish, Ltd.
Guidry Catfish Processors, Inc.
Gulf South Fish Sales
Humphreys Co. Catfish
King Kat, Inc.
Kueter's Lake
Le Flore - Bolivar
Pride of the Pond
Prime Line Catfish Co.
Seminole Brand
Simmons Farm-Raised
Southern Pride Catfish
Valley Grande Catfish

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FARM - RAISED CATFISH, 1985-86
QUANTITY PROCESSED AND PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS, REPORTED BY MAJOR PROCESSORS: AND U.S. IMPORTS

MONTH	ROUND WEIGHT PROCESSED				AVERAGE PRICE PAID TO PRODUCERS 1/		IMPORTS OF CATFISH 2/	
	MONTHLY		CUMULATIVE					
	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986	1985	1986
	THOUSAND POUNDS				DOLLARS PER POUND		THOUSAND POUNDS	
JAN	13,429	19,183	13,429	19,183	.67	.70	589	383
FEB	17,166	19,968	30,595	39,151	.69	.70	425	947
MAR	18,290	18,392	48,885	57,543	.73	.72	976	610
APR	16,474	16,248	65,359	73,791	.78	.74	602	954
MAY	17,432	16,163	82,791	89,954	.77	.72	214	646
JUN	15,897	16,000	98,688	105,954	.77	.68	928	787
JUL	14,311	16,344	112,999	122,298	.76	.66	871	543
AUG	17,130	19,220	130,129	141,518	.72	.63	423	669
SEP	16,638	18,884	146,767	160,402	.71	.63	832	486
OCT	16,861	19,800	163,628	180,202	.70	.62	96	800
NOV	14,625	16,697	178,253	196,899	.70	.61	603	1,142
DEC	13,363	14,849	191,616	211,748	.70	.61	501	

CATFISH PROCESSORS' SALES VOLUME, AVERAGE PRICE AND ENDING INVENTORY, DECEMBER 1986

ITEM	WHOLE FISH 3/	FILLETS 4/	OTHER 5/	TOTAL
FRESH				
QUANTITY (000) LB:	2,621	970	352	3,943
PRICE ($ / LB) :	1.41	2.50	1.40	1.65
INVENTORY(000) LB:	192	124	16	332
FROZEN				
QUANTITY(000) LB:	971	1,839	985	3,795
PRICE ($ / LB) :	1.51	2.45	1.74	2.02
INVENTORY(000) LB:	1,062	1,982	771	3,814

1/ PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS FOR FISH DELIVERED TO PROCESSING PLANT.
2/ DATA FURNISHED BY U.S. BUREAU OF CENSUS.
3/ DRESSED WEIGHT, (HEAD, VISERA AND SKIN REMOVED).
4/ INCLUDES REGULAR, SHANK AND STRIP FILLETS; EXCLUDES ANY BREADED PRODUCT.
5/ INCLUDES ALL PRODUCTS NOT ALREADY REPORTED, INCLUDING WEIGHT OF BREADING AND ADDED INGREDIENTS.

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